

2005 Kentucky Teacher of the Year Program

Sponsored by the Kentucky Department of Education and Ashland Inc.

Official Application Form

GENERAL INFORMATION/SIGNATURES

Name _____ Social Security # _____

Home Address _____ Telephone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Date of Birth _____ E-mail Address _____

Major Subject Area (if any) _____ Grade Level _____

Years of Teaching Experience _____ Years in Present Position _____

SCHOOL/DISTRICT INFORMATION

Principal Name _____ E-mail Address _____

School Name _____

School Phone _____ School Fax _____

School Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Superintendent Name _____

School District _____

District Phone _____ District Fax _____

District Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

If selected as the 2005 Kentucky Teacher of the Year, I understand that I will be expected to attend events sponsored by the state and national teacher of the year programs, and agree to do so. I give my permission to release the enclosed information for publication and/or other uses deemed appropriate to promote the Teacher of the Year program, and attest that the enclosed information is true and accurate.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

I. INSTRUCTIONS: Create and attach separate pages for Sections II - IX. Label each page with the appropriate title and page number. Use double-spaced copy, 10-point type. This information should be saved for possible future use on the national Teacher of the Year application.

II. Educational History and Professional Development Activities - 10 points (two double-spaced pages)

- A. Beginning with most recent, list colleges and universities attended including post-graduate studies. Indicate degrees earned and dates of attendance.
- B. Beginning with most recent, list teaching employment history indicating time period, grade level and subject area.
- C. Beginning with most recent, list professional association memberships including information regarding offices held and other relevant activities.
- D. Beginning with most recent, list staff development leadership activity and leadership activity in the training of future teachers.
- E. Beginning with the most recent, list awards and other recognition of your teaching.

III. Professional Biography - 10 points (two double-spaced pages)

- A. What were the factors that influenced you to become a teacher? Describe what you consider to be your greatest contributions and accomplishments in education.

IV. Community Involvement - 10 points (one double-spaced page)

- A. Describe your commitment to your community through service-oriented activities such as volunteer work, civic and other group activities.

V. Philosophy of Teaching - 25 points (two double-spaced pages)

A. Describe your personal feelings and beliefs about teaching, including your own ideas of what makes you an outstanding teacher. Describe the rewards you find in teaching.

B. How are your beliefs about teaching demonstrated in your personal teaching style?

VI. Education Issues and Trends - 10 points (two double-spaced pages)

A. What do you consider to be the major public education issues today? Address one in depth, outlining possible causes, effects and resolutions.

VII. The Teaching Profession - 25 points (two double-spaced pages)

A. What do you do to strengthen and improve the teaching profession?

B. What is and/or what should be the basis for accountability in the teaching profession?

VIII. Letters of Support - 10 points (limit of three letters, each a maximum of one page)

Include three letters of support from any of the following: superintendent, principal, administrator, colleague, student/former student, parent, or civic leader.

IX. Publicity Photograph

Include with the application package a high-quality, recent photograph (color or black and white) that is suitable for use in all publicity. The photo should be of the teacher only, no larger than 5" x 7" and no smaller than 3" x 5". Printed digital photographs are unacceptable.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To participate in the Kentucky Teacher of the Year Program, a teacher must have at least three years of experience in the classroom and spend more than half of his/her time each day in classroom instruction.

SELECTION CRITERIA

The Kentucky Teacher of the Year is selected through a three-tiered process that includes: 1) application judging; 2) classroom teaching observation; and 3) oral interview.

Applicants will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- **Creativity and Originality** - the applicant demonstrates successful use of original or innovative teaching methods.
- **Communication Skills** - the applicant demonstrates strong capability as a communicator 1) through an application free of grammatical, spelling and punctuation errors; and 2) through oral formats including classroom observations and personal interviews.
- **Education Contributions/Accomplishments** - the applicant demonstrates the ability to make significant contributions to education.
- **Professional Development** - the applicant demonstrates professional commitment by consistently upgrading teaching skills and maintaining awareness of educational trends and issues.
- **Community Involvement** - the applicant demonstrates commitment to community activities.

**Application should be completed on 8 1/2 x 11 white paper and bound by staple or one large clip. Do not include binders, sleeves, section separators, additional photographs, newspaper clippings, etc.

RETURN THE COMPLETED ORIGINAL APPLICATION TO:

2005 KENTUCKY TEACHER OF THE YEAR PROGRAM
ATTN: DONNA MELTON
KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
500 MERO STREET, ROOM 1723
FRANKFORT, KY 40601

APPLICATION DEADLINE: POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN JUNE 30, 2004